



# **KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE 1<sup>st</sup> RHE-MEDiation STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS**

**In October 2023, workshops were conducted in Gebze (Turkey), Athens (Greece), and Taranto (Italy) to introduce the project to local stakeholders and gather their feedback**



Funded by  
the European Union



**EU MISSIONS**

RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

# EU MISSION

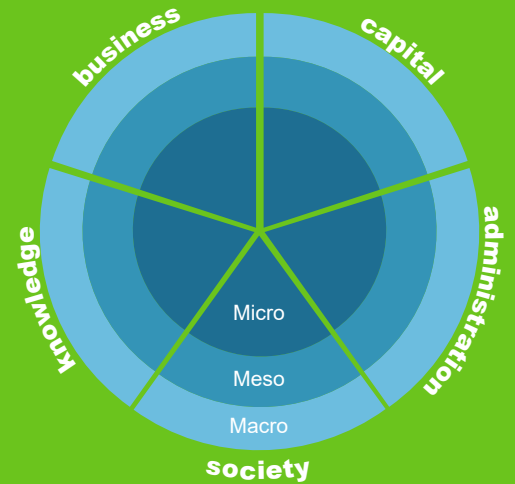


RHE-MEDiation can promote the MISSION's message across different stakeholder target groups.

Stakeholders believe that the aim of the **EU MISSION "Restore Our Oceans and Waters"** on pollution is feasible. **This belief significantly increased** following the stakeholder events and discussions, indicating a positive shift in confidence.



# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



The RHE-MEDIation stakeholder network engagement strategy and implementation framework is a dynamic process proven to be versatile adaptable to the specificities of the stakeholders different Target Groups within and across countries.

Stakeholders mapping, categorisation and engagement and empowerment plan needs continuous revisiting as new data become available and more stakeholders are involved and analysed.

The strategy tested to be effective and succeeded in identifying the level of interest of stakeholders, attracting their attention, engage them and derive valuable conclusions and interesting proposals highlighting the important role the stakeholders' groups (including citizens) can play in the project.



# RHEMEDIATION



- The RHE-MEDIation proposed technology appealed as satisfactory to enhance the Wastewater treatment plant depollution to the vast majority of the stakeholders
- Transparency and open access to data (and implicitly citizen empowerment) are important in transforming stakeholders into integral part of the project and to its success
- Confidence in the effectiveness of local authorities' actions against pollution through regulatory improvements and technology adoption is high HOWEVER higher-level policy/ administration engagement is necessary especially for upscaling
- There is a need for further information and engagement with stakeholders



## **BENEFITS**

RHE-MEDIation project can yield a range of potential benefits at Mediterranean level. Mainly on **Environmental - Recreation/Leisure - Economic - Public Health** - and Other levels

- Improved Environmental Health
- Enhanced Biodiversity
- Healthier Marine Life
- Sustainable Fishing Industry
- Enhanced Tourism
- Positive Economic Impact
- International Collaboration and Cooperation
- Enhanced Global Environmental Reputation
- Long-Term Sustainability



## CHALLENGES

### Technical

- Space requirements for setting up the necessary infrastructure.
- Removal of emerging pollutants and enhancing the RHE-Mediation technology for qualitative improvement of the water ecosystem.



### Policy / Legislation / Financial

- Ensuring economic feasibility and sustainable funding
- Fostering collaboration with industries
- Evaluating the implementation costs associated with scaling up the process
- Managing energy consumption associated with the process



### Scientific / Administration

- Dealing with different wastewater treatment scenarios and conditions
- Identification and management of all by-product pollutants
- Contingency plans for potential failures
- Facilitating technology development by supplier companies
- Addressing the lack of appropriate technological infrastructure in less developed countries
- Understanding the specific characteristics of each demo case for effective implementation
- Establishing robust and impartial methods for control and monitoring and accurate research and assessment



## Social

- Acceptance of the implemented technologies by the polluters
- Ensuring the acceptance of outcomes and results derived from the project
- Addressing community pressure regarding the use of the technology and considering alternative approaches
- Establishing synergies with stakeholders for better collaboration and support
- Addressing the lack of environmental awareness and culture
- Informing/training the population



# THE CONSORTIUM



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